

Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism. On a bipartisan basis, the Budget Committee has expressed concern that the OCO/GWOT budget has been misused by both this Administration and the previous Administration. In addition, Congress has generally gone along with using these funds for purposes outside of OCO/GWOT requirements. The Committee highlighted this concern in the report accompanying the FY 2015 budget resolution.

While I support this interim funding measure and want to ensure our armed forces have the resources they need for these purposes, together with the Committee's ranking Democratic member Mr. VAN HOLLEN, I will work to ensure that the final full-year appropriation for these purposes funds only those requirements that are closely related to the incremental, non-enduring costs of our overseas engagement in Afghanistan and the broader Middle East.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE ELECTRIC CHARGING ADVANCEMENT REFORM ACT

**HON. JANICE HAHN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, my home of Los Angeles unfortunately is the nation's smoggiest region of the country. We are surrounded by mountains and have the highest per capita ownership of cars. The Los Angeles region has made great improvements in our air quality. In the last 15 years, the number of dirty air days has dropped by 38 percent. Still—we have the worst air quality in the nation. The American Lung Association ranks the Los Angeles region as number one in the nation for ozone pollution and in the top five for particulate matter pollution.

This results in many health issues including higher numbers of children with asthma and significant lung function problems in normal, healthy people.

We do love our cars in Los Angeles, and the pollution from these cars is a key cause of our air quality problems. Los Angeles could drastically improve its air quality if more of those cars were plug in vehicles. However there are simply not enough charging stations available for this to be feasible.

As an owner of an all-electric Nissan Leaf, I know all too well that there is a lack of charging stations. I have personally experienced range anxiety. There have been times when driving home I have had to turn off the lights, radio, and air conditioning to ensure that I can make it home because there were no charging stations nearby. Los Angeles is one of the largest consumers of electric vehicles in the country. But, I believe people would buy more electric vehicles if charging stations were readily available.

Today, I am introducing the Electric Charging Advancement Reform Act to encourage more electric vehicles on our roads, which will result in clean air improvements and energy independence. This is an act integral to revolutionizing the accessibility of plug-in electric vehicles (PEVs) to potential drivers. My bill would reauthorize the electric vehicle recharging property credit and make available to

both consumers and businesses a tax credit of up to \$100,000 for the installation of charging stations.

No one driving a gas-powered car has to worry about finding a gas station before they get to their destination. Let us make sure that electric charging stations are just as easily accessible and convenient as the gas stations that are at every major intersection in our cities and off our major freeways.

#### HONORING MARY BETTY MINERO

**HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of New Mexico resident Mary Betty Minero, who passed away on July 15, 2014.

Betty was a lifelong resident of Barelás and a regular at Barelás Coffee House, which is where I first met her during my campaign for Congress in 2012. Betty had an oversized personality and an exuberant joy for life. She and I made a connection the instant she approached me, clutching her Betty Boo lunch pail, for a hug. Betty made me feel special, the same way she treated dozens of New Mexicans she embraced with equal enthusiasm each day. Neighbors, business leaders and government workers were always greeted by Betty as she worked the crowd before settling in at table 9A with a spoon in hand and half-and-half ready for her coffee.

Betty loved to dance. When she wasn't dancing with customers in the tight entryway at the coffee house, Betty could be found each Tuesday at Ned's, where her daughter, Geri Lucero, would take her for a night of dancing and local music.

Betty loved her close-knit family that included her husband, Ambrosio Minero, and their three daughters: Geri Lucero, Gloria Gutierrez and Betty Jo Martin. She also treasured her encounters with everyone she met. Her daughter said Betty never considered anyone a stranger, and if you talked to her long enough, she concluded you were probably related. She liked to tell people she thought she was 21 years old—before looking into the mirror and realizing she was really a young 89.

She was a parishioner at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Barelás and she was known to pray for the people she met, particularly those who were sick. Shortly before her death, Betty mourned the untimely death of her great-grandson, Jacob Gutierrez, a football star at Del Norte High School.

Betty's sincerity and genuine appreciation for others has had a profound effect on everyone who was fortunate enough to enjoy Betty's company and her spirit lives on in our community. My thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends. May the memory of Betty live on in our hearts.

RECOGNIZING THE ANNIVERSARIES OF THE SHIDOGAKUIN MARTIAL ARTS DOJO AND THE SHIDOGAKUIN WASHINGTON KENDO DOJO

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Shidogakuin Martial Arts Dojo on the occasion of its 30th anniversary and the Shidogakuin Washington Kendo Dojo (Washinkan) on its 20th Anniversary.

Kendo, meaning "Way of the sword," is a Japanese martial art derived from 16th Century traditional swordsmanship, using bamboo swords and protective armor for training. This sport is widely practiced throughout Japan, the United States, and many other nations around the world. Kendo is a physically and mentally challenging activity that combines martial arts practices and values with strenuous physical activity. It is great exercise, but it also is much more than a sport. The purpose of practicing Kendo is to mold the mind and body, to cultivate a vigorous spirit, and, through correct and rigid training, to strive for improvement in both technique and personal development.

In 1984, Mr. Shozo Kato established the Shidogakuin Kendo training school in New York City where both students and teachers were taught to learn and grow. In 1993 James Yan and Hiroaki Suzuki, with guidance from Shozo Kato, expanded Shidogakuin to the Washington, DC region by establishing a Kendo dojo at the National Institutes of Health to teach adults and children. The Shidogakuin Washington Kendo Dojo (Washinkan) is now based in Herndon, Virginia, in the 11th Congressional District.

The goal of the Washinkan Dojo is to provide teachers with necessary technical skills and teaching strategies; to implement the protocols to create an environment of professional courtesy, honor, and mutual respect; to provide the facilities necessary to learn and practice; to create a safe, friendly, family-oriented atmosphere; to inform the community that there is an opportunity to learn and practice the sword martial arts; to prepare students for practice, competition and advancement testing; and to prepare students for leadership in the dojo and the larger community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Shidogakuin Kendo Dojo and Shozo Kato on its 30th anniversary and the Washinkan Dojo and James Yan on its 20th anniversary and in thanking them for their service to the youth in our community.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILLIAM J. DIAZ HERMANDEZ

**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize William J. Diaz. A native of Cumana, Venezuela, William was raised in Caracas. From a young age, William naturally cultivated